

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING 37 C.F.R. 1.8(a)

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Date February 2006

Shirley Gruen
Shirley Gruen

093731

IFW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	
Gary W. Haberland, <i>et al.</i>)	Confirmation No.: 1216
)	
Serial No.: 09/580,721)	Examiner: Michael Thaler
)	
Filed: May 30, 2000)	Group Art Unit: 3731
)	
For: <i>Trocar System Having Shielded</i>)	Attorney Docket No.: 032528.000007
<i>Trocar</i>)	

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing are the following documents:

- Two Sheets of PTO/SB/08A with Information Disclosure Statement filed under 37 CFR §1.97;
- Firm check in the amount of \$180 for the requisite; and,
- Postcard, which we would appreciate your date stamping and returning to us upon receipt.

In the event a fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Bracewell & Giuliani LLP's Deposit Account No. 50-0259 (Atty. Docket No.: 032528.000007).

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey S. Whittle
Jeffrey S. Whittle, Reg. No. 36,382

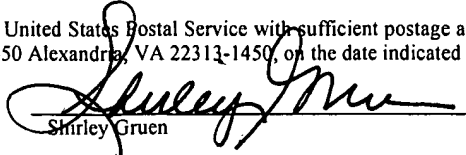
Date: 2-27-2006

BRACEWELL & GIULIANI LLP
P.O. Box 61389
Houston, Texas 77208-1389
Telephone: (713) 221-1185
Facsimile: (713) 222-2141

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22 February 2006
Date


Shirley Gruen

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Gary W. Haberland, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/580,721

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For: **Trocar System Having Shielded
Trocar**



Confirmation No.: 1216

Examiner: Michael Thaler

Group Art Unit: 3731

Attorney Docket No.: 032528.000007

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

Attached is Form PTO-1449A listing several references for consideration in the examination of the above-identified application. It is requested that these references be considered by the Examiner and officially made of record in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and Section 609 of the M.P.E.P.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the issuance of the first Office Action. A firm check in the amount of \$180, for the requisite fee, is attached. In the event an additional fee is required, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Bracewell & Giuliani LLP's Deposit Account No. 50-0259 (Atty. Docket No.: 032528.000007).

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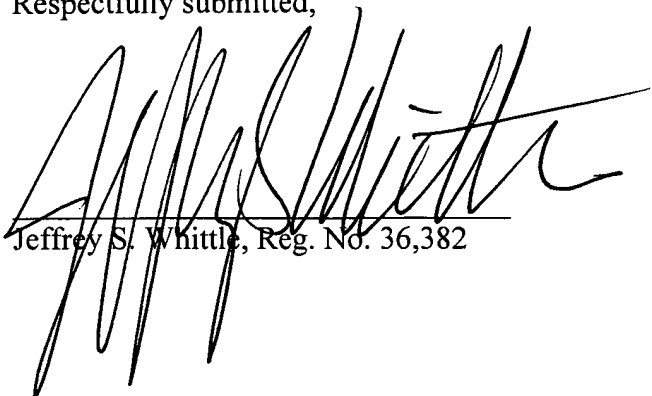
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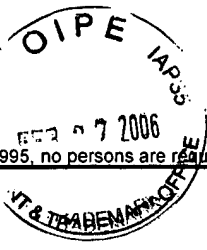
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Jeffrey S. Whittle, Reg. No. 36,382



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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/580,721
Filing Date	MAY 30, 2000
First Named Inventor	GARY W. HABERLAND
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	MICHAEL THALER
Attorney Docket Number	032528.000007

Sheet 1 of 2

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 5,194,383	04-14-1992	SHICHMAN	
		US- 5,300,036	04-05-1994	MUELLER, et al.	
		US- 5,342,315	08-30-1994	ROWE, et al.	
		US- 5,350,364	09-27-1994	STEPHENS, et al.	
		US- 5,366,478	11-22-1994	BRINKERHOFF, et al.	
		US- 5,385,553	01-31-1995	HART, et al.	
		US- 5,397,335	03-14-1995	GRESL, et al.	
		US- 5,411,483	05-02-1995	LOOMAS, et al.	
		US- 5,443,452	08-22-1995	HART, et al.	
		US- 5,476,475	12-19-1995	GADBERRY, et al.	
		US- 5,497,433	03-05-1996	ITOH, et al.	
		US- 5,584,850	12-17-1996	HART, et al.	
		US- 5,603,702	02-18-1997	SMITH, et al.	
		US- 5,628,732	05-13-1997	ANTOON, JR., et al.	
		US- 5,634,908	06-03-1997	LOOMAS	
		US- 5,657,963	08-19-1997	HINCHLIFFE, et al.	
		US- 5,662,615	09-02-1997	BLAKE, III	
		US- 5,709,664	01-20-1998	VANDENBROEK, et al.	
		US- 5,727,770	03-17-1998	DENNIS	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

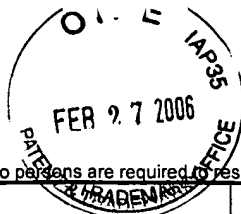
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner
SignatureDate
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PTO/SB/08A (07-05)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	MICHAEL THALER
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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 5,752,938	05-19-1998	FLATLAND, et al.	
		US- 5,792,113	08-11-1998	KRAMER, et al.	
		US- 5,827,228	10-27-1998	ROWE,	
		US- 5,720,730	02-24-1998	BLAKE, III	
		US- 5,865,807	02-02-1999	BLAKE, III	
		US- 5,895,377	04-20-1999	SMITH, et al.	
		US- 5,989,224	11-23-1999	EXLINE, et al.	
		US- 6,217,555 B1	04-17-2001	HART, et al.	
		US- 6,228,061 B1	05-08-2001	FLATLAND, et al.	
		US- 6,258,065 B1	07-10-2001	DENNIS, et al.	
		US- 6,482,181 B1	11-19-2002	RACENET, et al.	
		US- 6,551,282 B1	04-22-2003	EXLINE, et al.	
		US- 6,595,946 B1	07-22-2003	PASQUALUCCI, et al.	
		US- 6,612,196 B1	09-02-2004	PETZOLD	
		US- 6,702,787 B2	03-09-2004	RACENET, et al.	
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			
		US-			

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		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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